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GENERAL WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.

The genius of American institutions, opposed as it is to that restless spirit of conquest which actuated and convulsed so many nations of antiquity, the middle ages, and even a later day, would seem to be unfriendly to the development of military talents. Neither the requirements of a superabundant population, nor any of the usual incentives to an increase of territory, always flagrant in aged and despotic countries, have yet arisen to counteract the anti-military tendencies of our form of government and social polity. Our wars, consequently, have been few in number and always of a defensive character. But what they have been deficient in extent and frequency, they have unfortunately made up in severity and duration. If our armies of volunteers and militia could not be compared in point of numbers and discipline, to the well-appointed hosts of imperial France or haughty England, they have proved that their valour was as unyielding as those of the bravest regulars with whom they have come in conflict. If, until a comparatively recent period, our officers have been devoid of that rigid schooling, the benefits of which are partially enjoyed by even the humblest subjects of some European nations, the laurels they have won on many a hard-fought field against the mercenary legions of Britain and savage hordes on our frontier, attest the prowess and military capacity of our people. The historians of few countries, numbering even centuries of existence, can point their readers to a list of such illustrious instances of consummate heroism as are furnished in the annals of the arms of our infant Republic. The narratives of valour may be hunted in vain for examples of true elevation of soul and dauntless gallantry under the most appalling emergencies. The glory of their achievements, is the property of the nation. The sun of their fame, unobscured by the mists of malice or of envy, will irradiate the path of the future defenders of our country. Their bright example is the richest heritage we can bequeath to posterity. We need then offer no apology to the readers of this magazine, for devoting a few pages to a succinct and impartial elucidation of the *military* career of one of our most valiant and, we may add, successful Generals.

William Henry Harrison was born in Virginia, in the year 1773, and was the third son of Benjamin Harrison, one of the most distinguished patriots of the Revolution, a member of the Continental Congress, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and subsequently governor of Virginia. This venerated sage and statesman died in 1791, when his son William was about eighteen years of age. Hence the early period of the life of General Harrison, when impressions are the deepest and most indelible, was passed in the school of patriotism and with the brightest models before him. Soon after the death of his father and the completion of his education within the venerable walls of Hampden Sydney College, he was induced, by the advice of his friends, to remove to Philadelphia, and devote himself to the study of medicine, under the guardianship of Robert Morris, the celebrated financier of the Revolution. About that period, however, a general excitement and alarm prevailed along the whole frontier bordering on the Ohio River, produced by the depredations and murders committed by the Indians. Young Harrison, true to the stock from which he sprang, participating in the patriotic feelings of the times, resolved with the consent of his friends, among whom was the immortal Washington, an intimate associate of his father, to enter the service of his country. Some idea may be formed of the posture of affairs at that period, and of the character of the duties he was required to discharge, when it is recollected that it was on the 4th of November, in the year 1791, that General St. Clair, with an army of 1400 men, was defeated at the Miami villages, by the confederated Indians under the celebrated chief Little Turtle, with the loss of nearly 1000 men in killed and wounded, including some of his best officers. In November, 1791, when but eighteen years of age, he received his first appointment as Ensign from General Washington, and hastened to join his regiment, which was then stationed at Fort Washington. He arrived at that post a few days after the disastrous defeat of St. Clair to which we have just adverted. A new army was soon after raised by the government, and the command given to General Wayne, who had earned a brilliant reputation for skill and gallantry during the Revolutionary war. This army, which was called Wayne's Legion, was organized at Pittsburgh in the Summer of 1792; and in the ensuing November it left that place and went into winter quarters at Legionville, on the Ohio, 22 miles below Pittsburgh. In February 1792, Harrison was promoted by General Washington to a Lieutenancy, and soon after he joined Wayne's Legion. His boldness, energy and strict attention to discipline, very early attracted the notice of his observant commander-in-chief, himself a chivalrous and fearless soldier and rigid disciplinarian—and General Wayne, not long after, selected him as one of his aides-de-camp.

These minute details are worthy of especial regard, as illustrative of the high estimate entertained of Harrison at a very early age and in trying times, by the most discerning soldiers and patriots of the country. During the whole of

the ensuing campaigns—which were not less distinguished for the arduous services which they entailed, than for their results which conferred so much glory on our arms and gave peace and tranquillity to the frontier,—Lieutenant Harrison acted as aid to General Wayne. His bravery and gallant conduct throughout, were such, that he was repeatedly officially noticed in terms of the highest encomium. In his despatches to the Secretary of war, after the bloody and desperate battle of Miami, in which the confederated Indians and their allies were totally routed, Gen. Wayne, in mentioning those whose fearlessness made them conspicuous on that occasion, remarked that “my faithful and gallant aides-de-camp, Captains De Butts and T. Lewis, and *Lieutenant Harrison*, with the adjutant general Major Mills, rendered the most essential service, by communicating my orders in every direction, and by their conduct and bravery exciting the troops to press for victory.” Soon after this battle, in July 1797, Lieutenant Harrison received from the President as some slight recompense for his gallantry, the commission of captain and was placed in command of Fort Washington—the most important military post on the western frontier. He was then but twenty four years of age!

Captain Harrison remained in the army till the close of the year 1797, when, as there was no longer an opportunity to serve his country in the field, he resigned his commission. He was almost immediately after appointed by the President, Secretary and, *ex officio*, Lieutenant Governor of the North-Western Territory, which then embraced the immense extent of country lying north-west of the Ohio river. In this post, which was of a civil nature altogether, he rendered himself so popular by his talents, urbanity and propriety of deportment, that he was elected by the people of the Territory their first delegate to Congress, when but twenty six years of age, and took his seat in the House of Representatives at the commencement of the first session in December 1799. His first efforts were directed to the accomplishment of an object in which the vital interests of his constituents, particularly the poorer classes of them, were concerned. This was to procure a change in the mode of disposing of the public lands, which from the size of the tracts sold, and places of sale, put it out of the power of the indigent emigrants to purchase them; throwing, as a natural consequence, the whole business into the hands of speculators, and thus retarding the settlement of the country. By dint of his great talents, irrepressible energy and perseverance, he accomplished the object, notwithstanding the opposition which the measure met with from the wealthy capitalists of the country and some of the ablest members of Congress.

At this session of Congress the North-West Territory, which had hitherto embraced all the country lying to the north-west of the Ohio, including Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and what are now called the Territories of Wisconsin and Iowa, was divided into two parts; so much of it as comprised the present States of Ohio and Michigan, retained the old name, and the rest, comprising the immense extent of country lying north-west of it, was made a separate Territory and received the title of Indiana. The act of Congress, which was approved by the President on the 7th of May 1800, became a law on that day, and on the 12th of May, five days afterwards, Captain Harrison was nominated by him to the Senate as the first Governor of Indiana Territory, in compliance with the earnest and express wishes of the people of the Territory. On the following day the nomination was confirmed by the Senate.

If we reflect for a moment on the nature of the powers which were conferred by this appointment, and the delicate situation in which he was placed, from his immediate connexion with the Indians, fickle, treacherous and prone to war as they were; it is difficult to conceive a stronger proof of the estimation in which he was held, and the high opinion entertained of his civil and military talents, by the President, the Senate, and the People of the Territory. By this appointment, he became Commander-in-Chief of the Militia, with the right of selecting all officers in it below the rank of general officers. Before the organization of the General Assembly, he was to appoint such magistrates and other civil functionaries, in each county or township, as he should deem necessary, for the preservation of peace and good order, and together with the Judges, to adopt and publish such laws of the original States, both criminal and civil, as they should think proper and suited to the circumstances of the district, possessing himself *alone* the power to lay out the counties and townships. After the organization of the General Assembly, he was to form part of it, having an absolute veto upon all their proceedings, with the power to convene, prorogue or dissolve the assembly when he thought it expedient. The term of office was limited by law to three years, and at the expiration of any one term, unless his conduct had been perfectly satisfactory to the government and to the people over whom he presided, he might have been suspended without the harshness of removal from office. Yet he administered the civil government of that immense Territory, possessing almost absolute powers over its diversified concerns and interests, for the period of thirteen years, from 1800 to 1813, being re-appointed twice by Mr. Jefferson, in 1803 and 1806, and once by Mr. Madison in 1809. He is thus seen to have received the strongest marks of confidence and approbation, from all the different Presidents, from the People of the Territory and from four Senates of the United States.

In the year 1809, the House of Representatives of Indiana Territory, *unanimously* requested his re-appointment in the following terms extracted from the Resolution: “They cannot forbear recommending to and requesting of the President and Senate, most earnestly in their own name, and in the name of their constituents, the appointment of their present Governor, William Henry Harrison, because, he possesses the good wishes and affection of a great majority of his fellow-citizens:—because, they believe him sincerely attached to the Union, the prosperity of the United States, and the administration, (Mr. Madison’s) of its government;—because, they believe him, in a superior degree, capable of promoting the interests of the Territory, from long experience and laborious attention to its concerns, from his influence with the Indians, and wise and disinterested management of that department, and because, they have confidence in his virtues, talents, and republicanism.” But in addition to these extensive powers, he was in the year 1803, appointed by Mr. Jefferson, with the advice and consent of the Senate, “Commissioner to enter into any treaties which may be necessary with any Indian tribes, north-west of the Ohio, and within the territory of the United States, on the subject of their boundaries or lands.” Under the power thus given, during the period of his civil administration as Governor, he alone negotiated thirteen treaties, with different tribes for extinguishing their titles to lands within that exten-

sive and fertile region. Nearly the entire period of his civil administration, was a continued series of treaties; and his unsurpassed efficiency as a negotiator and diplomatist, is amply established in his able and voluminous correspondence with President Jefferson, and in the treaties themselves. By one of these he procured the extinguishment of the title to the largest tract of country ever ceded at one time by the Indians, since the settlement of North America. It embraced upwards of fifty-one millions of acres!

Until the year 1811, Governor Harrison had been able from his knowledge of the Indian character and skilful management of their affairs, to keep his savage neighbours in check, and to preserve the peace and security of the frontier settlements. About this period, however, our affairs with England drawing to a crisis, the British traders availed themselves of the natural turbulence and love of plunder which characterize the Indians, to instigate them to acts of violence and depredation, and actually furnished them with arms and equipments for war. To their influence was added that of the Shawnese prophet, Ol-liwa-chica, the brother of the celebrated Tecumseh, and these deluded tribes began to renew those scenes of desolation and blood, in the conflagration of dwellings and the murder of whole families, which had before drawn down upon them the vengeance of the American People. In October, 1811, Governor Harrison, with the troops under his command, proceeded to the Prophet's town, on the Wabash, at the junction with the Tippecanoe, for the purpose of restoring tranquillity. After a march of thirty days, he arrived there on the 6th of November, and the Indians, as usual, met him with protestations of friendship, and the promise to hold a council on the following day for the settlement of all complaints. Before the following day, however, in the gloom of a dark, cold, and cloudy night, they assailed his camp with savage yells. But they did not (as they expected) find him unprepared. The army had been encamped in the order of battle, and the troops reposed with their clothes and accoutrements on, and their arms at their sides. The officers had been ordered to sleep in the same manner, and "it was the Governor's invariable practice to be ready to mount his horse at a moment's warning. On the morning of the 7th, he arose at a quarter before four o'clock, and sat by the fire conversing with the gentlemen of his family, who were reclining on their blankets waiting for the signal, which in a few minutes would have been given for the troops to turn out. The orderly drummer had been already roused for the reveillee. The moon had risen, but afforded little light, in consequence of being overshadowed by clouds, which occasionally discharged a drizzling rain. At this moment the attack commenced." A desperate conflict ensued, in which the Indians manifested uncommon ferocity, but which ended in their total defeat, and they abandoned their town, leaving behind them their provisions and almost every thing they possessed."

The battle of Tippecanoe was one of the most spirited and best fought actions recorded in the annals of our Indian wars. The assailants and their weapons were fully equal in numbers and quality to the Americans, and the Indians, contrary to their usual custom, fought hand to hand, and with the fiercest bravery. No soldier in the ranks at this battle was exempt from danger, but no man encountered more personal peril than Governor Harrison himself—well known to many of the Indians, and the object of their peculiar attack,—his fearless and unshrinking exposure, makes it appear almost a miracle that he should have escaped unwounded. In referring to the coolness and intrepidity of Governor Harrison, on this occasion, we cannot refrain from making the following extracts from a Journal published in 1816, by a private soldier, who fought in this battle, and could have had no interested motives for his publication:—"General Harrison," he says, "received a shot through the rim of his hat. In the heat of the action his voice was frequently heard, and easily distinguished, giving his orders in the same calm, cool, and collected manner, with which we had been used to receive them on drill or parade. The confidence of the troops in the General was unlimited." The same intelligent writer in speaking of Harrison's kindness to the soldiers, and his influence over them, remarks:—"He appeared not disposed to detain any man against his inclination; being endowed by nature with a heart as humane as brave, in his frequent addresses to the militia, his eloquence was formed to persuade; appeals were made to reason as well as to feeling, and never were they made in vain." The President, Mr. Madison, in communicating to Congress, December 13, 1811, the despatches and intelligence of this splendid achievement of western valour, thus expressed himself:—"While it is deeply to be lamented, that so many valuable lives have been lost in the action which took place on the 7th ult., Congress will see with satisfaction the dauntless spirit and fortitude victoriously displayed by every description of troops engaged, as well as the collected firmness which distinguished their commander, on an occasion requiring the utmost exertion of valour and discipline." The Legislature of Indiana issued an address to Governor Harrison, of which the following is an extract:—"The House of Representatives of Indiana Territory, in their own name, and in behalf of their constituents, most cordially reciprocate the congratulations of your Excellency on the glorious result of the late sanguinary conflict with the Shawnese Prophet, and the tribes of Indians confederated with him; where we see displayed in behalf of our country, not only the consummate abilities of the General, but the heroism of the man; and when we take into view the benefits which must result to that country from those exertions, we cannot for a moment withhold our meed of applause." The chivalry and daring of General Harrison, not less than his great abilities and skill displayed as a commander on the occasion, were thus referred to in a joint resolution of the Legislature of Kentucky, notwithstanding the loss that state had sustained in some of her most valuable citizens:—"Resolved, That in the late campaign against the Indians on the Wabash, Governor *W. H. Harrison* has, in the opinion of this Legislature, behaved like a *Hero*, a *Patriot*, and a *General*; and that for his cool, deliberate, skilful and gallant conduct in the late battle of Tippecanoe, he deserves the warmest thanks of the nation." The gallant Col. Davies, who fell at Tippecanoe, thus speaks of General Harrison in a letter written a short time before the battle:—"I make free to declare that I have imagined there were two military men in the West, and General Harrison is the first of the two." These are but a few of the many eulogies pronounced upon his achievements before and on the glorious field of Tippecanoe.

On the 18th of June, 1812, war was declared by the United States against Great Britain, and Governor Harrison was

in that year appointed a Brigadier General in the regular army. In the course of the year, General Hull, to whom had been confided the command of the North Western Army, made a shameful surrender at Detroit, putting the British in possession of his whole force, and of a large region of country. This mortifying and disastrous event gave new zeal and hopes to the savage foe; the intelligence was spread with rapidity, from the Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, and the torch of war was lighted along the whole frontier of the United States. In the surprise, alarm, grief and indignation of the moment, *public sentiment* pointed to General Harrison as the man who alone was equal to the exigencies of the occasion, and accordingly to him was confided, as Commander-in-Chief, the difficult and dangerous duty of repairing the mischiefs which had been inflicted upon the country, by the base conduct of Hull. This appointment was conferred upon him by Mr. *Madison*, at the earnest request and recommendation of the People of the West, and particularly of the gallant Governor Shelby and Col. Richard M. Johnson of Kentucky, who had served under him. Before this, however, a successful effort had been made by a jealous rival of General Harrison to have General Winchester appointed to this command. M'Afee, in his History of the Last War, remarks, "The troops had confidently expected that General Harrison would be confirmed in the command; and by this time he had completely received the confidence of every soldier in the army. He was affable and courteous in his manners, and indefatigable in his attention to every branch of business. His soldiers seemed to anticipate the wishes of their general; it was only necessary to be known that he wished something done, and all were anxious to risk their lives in its accomplishment. His men would have fought better and suffered more with him, than with *any other General in America*; and whatever might have been the merits of General Winchester, it was certainly an unfortunate arrangement which transferred the command to him at this moment. It is absolutely necessary that militia soldiers should have great confidence in their general, if they are required either to obey with promptness, or to fight with bravery. The men were at last reconciled to march under Winchester, but with a confident belief that Harrison would be placed in the command; which accordingly was done, as soon as the War Department was informed of his appointment in the Kentucky troops, and his popularity in the western country." A letter was addressed to General Harrison by the immortal Perry, about the time of the appointment of the former to the command, from which we make the following extract. "You know what has been my opinion as to the future commander-in-chief of the army. I pride myself not a little, I assure you, on seeing my predictions so near being verified; yes, my dear friend, I expect soon to hail you as the chief who is to redeem the honour of our arms in the North." In a letter addressed to General Harrison by Col. Richard M. Johnson, dated July 4th, 1813, assigning the reasons which influenced him and the brave Kentuckians under his command, to join the army of Gen. Harrison, we find the following remarks:—"Two great objects induced us to come; first, to be at the regaining of our own territory and Detroit, and at the taking of Malden; and secondly, to serve under an officer in whom we have confidence. We would not have engaged in the service without such a prospect—we did not want to serve under drunkards, old grannies, cowards, nor traitors, but under one who had proved himself to be wise, prudent and brave."

The first efforts of General Harrison were to assemble and organize a suitable army. In May, 1813, he sustained a siege for thirteen days, at Fort Meigs, conducted by a superior combined force of British troops and Indians under General Proctor and Tecumseh, from which they were repulsed with signal success. During the siege, 1800 shells and balls were fired upon the fort, as well as a continual discharge of small arms maintained. Colonel M'Kure of Ohio, a veteran of the last war, states that "in the first attack by the British upon Fort Meigs, the Americans fought outside the fort. I commanded at one of the gates of the fort, and personally helped General Harrison over the pickets, and saw him commanding his men *in person and on foot*, regardless of the most imminent danger." M'Afee minutely describes the brilliant sortie of Fort Meigs, in his History of the Last War, to which we are compelled by our narrow limits, to refer the reader for many interesting particulars.

In the fall of the year 1813, the glorious victory of Perry on Lake Erie, having given to the Americans the command of the Lake, General Harrison determined to invade Canada, and carry the war into the enemy's country. His troops were accordingly transported to the Canadian shore, by the victorious fleet of Perry, and having landed below Malden, and taken possession of that place, he detached a force to take possession of Detroit, and then pursued his flying enemy to the banks of the Thames. Here on the 5th of October, 1813, he found General Proctor, with upwards of 600 regulars, and 2000 Indians under Tecumseh, posted to receive him. They occupied a narrow strip of land, with the river on one side and a swamp on the other; their left resting upon the river, supported by artillery, their right upon the swamp covered by the whole Indian force. Occupying thus the whole space, a more extended front could not be presented to them than their own, and no advantage taken of superiority of numbers, if any existed. By a bold, brilliant and original manœuvre, which displayed the splendid military genius of the commander, the fate of the battle was instantly decided.—Gen. Harrison ordered the regiment of mounted infantry to be drawn up in close column, and at full speed to charge the enemy.* The shock was irresistible. The British troops gave way on all sides, and 600 regulars, including 25 officers, laid down their arms and became prisoners of war. The Indians continued to fight with great and desperate courage, but were finally routed, and their celebrated Chief Tecumseh slain on the field. In this decisive victory, the venerable Governor Shelby, a hero of the Revolution commanded under General Harrison, the Kentucky volunteers, General Cass, late Secretary of war, and our present Minister in France and Commodore Perry, acted

* We refer the reader to the engraving of Gen. Harrison and his staff, at the moment this order was given.

† "Tecumseh, who was shot at the Battle of the Thames, was about 46 Years of age, of the Shawnees tribe, erect and lofty in his deportment, with a penetrating eye, and stood 6ft high, of stern visage; artful; insidious in preparing Enterprizes and bold in their Execution. Among the Indians he was justly termed the Boldest Warrior of the West"



Col. Dade Col. Phipps Gen. Harrison
 Gen. Dade Col. Phipps Gen. Harrison

GEN. HARRISON'S VICTORY AT THE BATTLE OF THE THAMES.

AT THE BATTLE OF THE THAMES.

Engraved by J. B. H. & Co. from a painting by J. B. H. & Co.

as the Aides of General Harrison. All the official papers of General Proctor were taken, and he himself escaped with great difficulty from his pursuers; property to the amount of a million of dollars was captured, and three pieces of brass cannon, trophies of the Revolutionary War, which had been taken from the British at Saratoga and York, and surrendered by Hull at Detroit, were recovered. This brilliant and decisive achievement, in which the American army was composed of volunteers, mounted infantry, and only 120 regulars, was hailed in every quarter of the country with the liveliest demonstrations of joy and gratitude, and was celebrated from Maine to Louisiana, in most of our cities and chief towns by illuminations. It at once put a period to the strife of arms in that quarter. The din of war was hushed, the husbandman returned to his plough, and the peaceful occupations of civil life were resumed. In referring to the official account of the action, Thomas Ritchie, the able editor of the Richmond Inquirer, remarked:—

“General Harrison’s detailed letter tells us of every thing we wish to know about the officers except himself. He does justice to every one but to *Harrison*, the world must therefore do justice to the man *who was too modest to be just to himself*.” In the language of the Hon. Langdon Cheves, of South Carolina, on the floor of Congress, “this victory of Harrison, was such as would have secured to a Roman General, in the best days of the Republic, the honors of a triumph. He put an end to the war in the uppermost Canada.” The annual message of President Madison addressed to Congress, December 7th, 1813, contained the following allusion to the victory of the Thames:—

“The success on Lake Erie having opened a passage to the territory of the enemy, Gen. Harrison commanding the North Western Army transferred the war thither; and rapidly pursuing the hostile troops, fleeing with their savage associates, forced a general action, which quickly terminated in the capture of the British, and the dispersion of the Savage force. This result is signally honorable to Major General Harrison, by whose military talents it was achieved.” Similar language was employed to express the universal joy at this result, by most of the governors of the different states, in proclamations issued by the chief magistrates of the various cities, by Congress, and the several state Legislatures. Governor Snyder of Pennsylvania in his annual message to the Legislature, dated December 10th, 1813, remarked that “the blessings of thousands of women and children rescued from the scalping knife of the ruthless savage of the wilderness, and from the still more savage Proctor, rest on Harrison and his gallant army.”

Here ends the military career of General Harrison, and that title and that character which was accepted at the hands of Mr. Madison, when duty and the circumstances of the times required it, was cheerfully laid aside, when there was no longer a patriotic motive for its retention. His determination to withdraw from the army was in consequence of the jealousy of General Armstrong, Secretary of War, who, to the surprise of the nation, assigned him services far removed from any post of danger and inferior to that which he had a right to expect. On learning the determination of General Harrison to resign his commission, the venerable and gallant Governor Shelby of Kentucky, who had served under him, addressed a letter, dated May 18th, 1814, to President Madison, urging him not to accept the resignation, but the President being on a visit to Virginia, did not receive it before General Armstrong, who was eager for General Harrison to quit a service in which he was winning such imperishable laurels, had assumed the responsibility of officially acquiescing in his withdrawal from the army. The following is an extract from Governor Shelby’s letter to Mr. Madison.

“I feel no hesitation to declare to you, that I believe Gen. Harrison to be one of the *First Military characters I ever knew*; and in addition to this, he is capable of making greater personal exertions than any officer with whom I have served. I doubt not but it will hereafter be found that the command of the North Western Army, and the various duties attached to it, has been one of the most arduous and difficult tasks ever assigned to any officer in the United States.” General McArthur, who had also served under General Harrison, addressed his friend and old commander on the subject, in which he remarked:—

“You, sir, stand the highest with the militia of this State of any General in the service, and I am confident that no man can fight them to so great advantage; and I think their extreme solicitude may be the means of calling you to this frontier.”

The following resolution was passed by both branches of Congress, and approved 4th of April, 1819.—

“Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the thanks of Congress be, and they are hereby presented to Major General *William Henry Harrison*, and *Isaac Shelby*, late Governor of Kentucky, and through them to the officers and men under their command, for their gallantry and good conduct in defeating the combined British and Indian forces under Major General Proctor on the Thames, in Upper Canada, on the 5th day of October, 1813, capturing the British army, with their baggage, camp equipage, and artillery; and that the President of the United States be requested to cause two *Gold Medals* to be struck, emblematical of this triumph, and presented to General Harrison and Isaac Shelby, late Governor of Kentucky.”

We cannot better illustrate the estimate of General Harrison, formed by one who knew him well, having served under him in several campaigns, than by making the following extract from a speech delivered in the House of Representatives of the United States, March 2nd, 1831, by the Hon. Richard M. Johnson, of Kentucky, now Vice President, on the bill for the relief of J. C. Harrison, deceased. “One of the securities is Gen. Wm. H. Harrison—and who is Gen. Harrison? The son of one of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, who spent the greater part of his large fortune in redeeming the pledge he then gave of “his fortune, life and sacred honor,” to secure the liberty of his country.

“Of the career of Gen. Harrison, I need not speak—the history of the West is his history. For forty years he has been identified with its interests, its perils and its hopes. Universally beloved in the walks of peace, and distinguished by his ability in the councils of his country, he has been yet more illustriously distinguished in the field.

“During the late war he was longer in active service than any other general officer; he was perhaps oftener in action than any one of them, and *never sustained a defeat*.”

In the year 1816, General Harrison was elected to Congress from the state of Ohio. In this station he served with great distinction, until the year 1819, when he was chosen a member of the state Senate. In 1824, he was elected a Senator of the United States, by the Legislature of Ohio, and continued to serve with eminent ability in that distinguished body, performing the duties of chairman of the Committee on Military affairs in the place of General Jackson, who had resigned, until the year 1828, when he was appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Columbia. Since the period of his return to the United States in 1829, he has continued to pursue the elevating though laborious occupation of a husbandman on the banks of the Ohio.

General Harrison is now about 66 years of age, but from his active and temperate habits, he enjoys in their full vigour, his mental and physical powers. In his manners, he is plain, frank and unassuming; in his disposition, cheerful, kind and generous. With opportunities of amassing wealth, during his long administration of Indian affairs, while Governor of Indiana, unless restrained by the most delicate and scrupulous integrity; yet he came out of the service of his country with diminished means. During the whole period of his military services, amidst all the privations, toils, and sufferings of a war carried on in an uninhabited country, covered with swamps and woods, he never caused a soldier to be punished. Yet no General ever commanded the confidence, admiration and obedience of the militia to a greater extent. When asked by a fellow officer how he managed to gain the control over his troops which he possessed, he answered, "By treating them with affection and kindness,—by always recollecting that they were my fellow citizens, whose feelings I was bound to respect, and sharing on every occasion, the hardships they were obliged to undergo." In September 1829, while residing at Bogota, as Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to the Republic of Columbia, he addressed a letter to General Bolivar, at that time President of the Republic, but who it was feared intended to subvert the *Republican* government and assume *Despotic* power. The object was to dissuade him from taking so fatal a step, and the whole letter is replete with the soundest views and the noblest sentiments. We thus perceive that the influence of the school in which he was reared, has not been lost upon him. Born and bred among the heroes and sages of the Revolution,—drawing his principles fresh from the fountain of American liberty, his whole life has been spent in the service of his country. But great and brilliant as his military services have been, they did not excel his civil labours in duration or importance. Out of a period of thirty seven years of public employment, eight or nine have been spent in bearing arms amidst the perils and privations of Indian and British warfare, but upwards of twenty in high and responsible offices of civil trust—In the eloquent language of one of his neighbours, "he is the son of one of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence—a distinguished patriot of the Revolution; enrolled at nineteen in the ranks of his country's defenders; the favorite Aide-de-Camp of Wayne; one of the victors of Miami; the trusted commander of the important out post, Fort Washington; the secretary to the North-Western Territory; its first delegate to Congress; the author of the beneficent land system, by which honest settlers were encouraged, and speculators rebuked; the popular Governor of Indiana; the overthrower of Tecumseh and his British allies; the able diplomatist at the treaty of Vincennes, the Hero of Tippecanoe; the gallant conqueror of Upper Canada, and as gallantly victorious at the Thames; a member of Congress in 1822, and a Senator in 1824, in which station he advocated the reform of the militia system, and the appointment of Cadets of the sons of those who die in defence of their country; and also the prompt adjustment of the claims of the surviving officers and soldiers of the revolution; was minister to Columbia in 1828; and the author of the renowned letter to Bolivar".

For the U. S. Military Magazine.

To Gen. WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.

BY THOMAS FITNAM, ESQ.

Like the Sun in its transit round Heav'n's great arch,
Dispelling the gloom which obscures all beneath;
Thou, sir, in th'van of our army didst march,
Triumphantly forcing our foes to retreat.

For courage and worth, virtue, honor and sense,
Thine standest the first 'mid illustrious names,
Oh! say, where's the man, if he could, would dispense,
With thy feat at Fort Meigs, or that of the Thames?

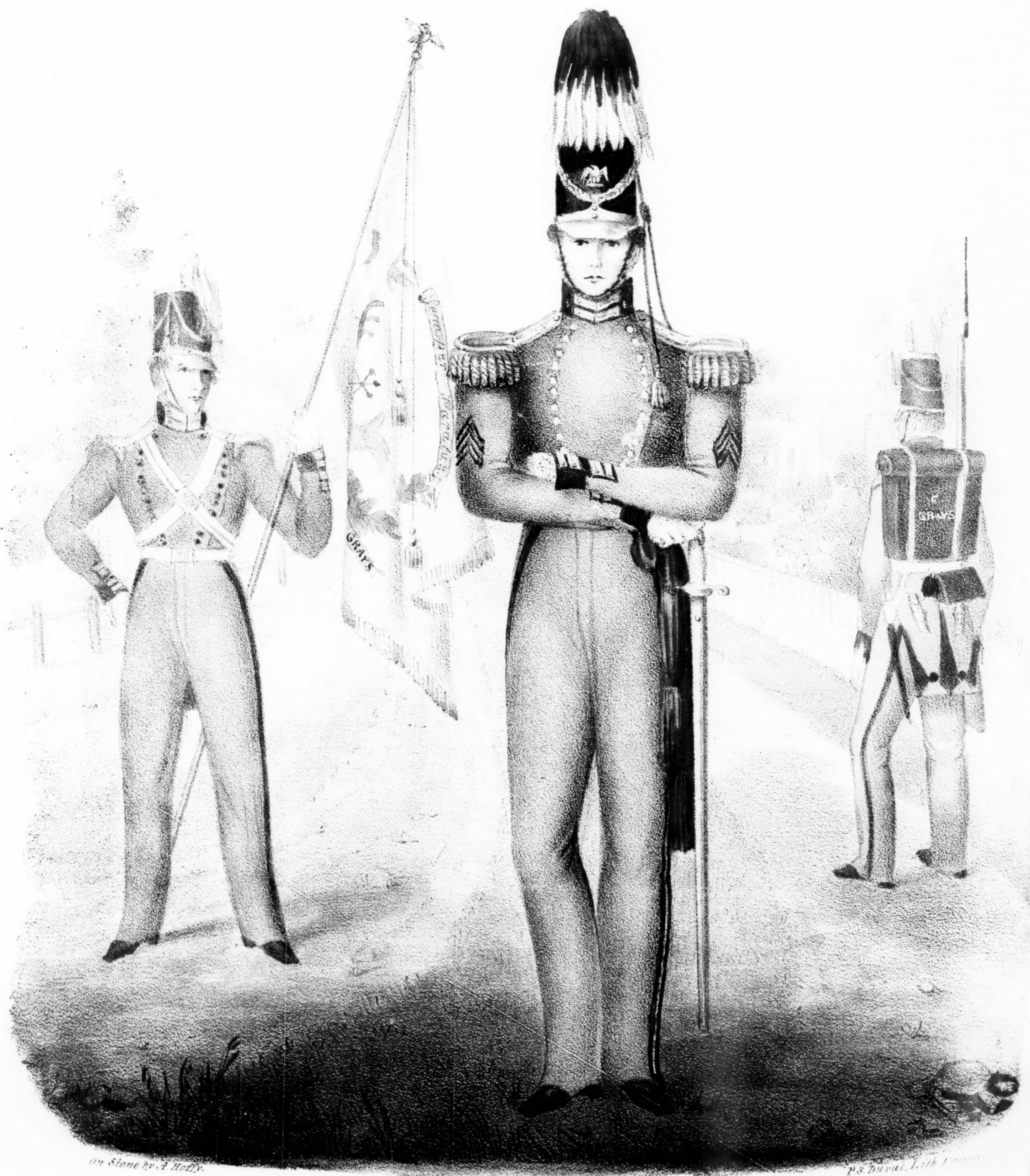
Those wreaths o'er thy brow which thy talents had gain'd
On the field—in the Senate, are justly thy due;
They're free from those crimes with which others are stain'd,
For they bear the bright impress of "Tippecanoe!"

All those may feel proud who high stations now hold,
As gifts from the people, thro' party confer'd;
But never! oh! never! let freemen be told,
That thro' party alone should be claimants prefer'd.

Then shew me the soldier whose bosom responds,
To th'ennobling emotions of national pride;
That would, if his country were threaten'd with bonds,
Be seen not contending with thee, side by side.

I'd chain down the traitorous serf to the earth—
I'd stamp on his forehead the brand of a slave;
His kind, to like offspring, should never give birth,
But all should descend to one ignoble grave.

Philadelphia October 12th, 1839.



TO THE CLEVELAND GRAYS OF CLEVELAND (OHIO)

this plate is most respectfully dedicated

by Huddy & Duval.

Entered according to Act of Congress in the Year 1863, by Huddy & Duval in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Eastern Dist. of N.Y.

Cleveland Greys, of Cleveland, Ohio.

This company was organized by T. Ingraham and A. S. Sanford, in July 1837. They had great difficulty for a length of time, in getting the young men of the city, to join in the undertaking, owing in part to an apathy in regard to military matters on the part of the citizens, and also on account of the Laws of the State, which are not such as to encourage the raising of volunteer corps.—After some little time, however, their number had increased to some ten or twelve members, when they commenced their regular drills under T. Ingraham who was for the present chosen their drill officer, the election of other officers was postponed until their should be members enough to warrant it. The company remained in this state until July 12th, 1838, when the number of members having increased to about thirty, it was thought expedient to go into a regular election of officers, with the following result.

T. INGRAHAM, CAPTAIN.

1st Lieut. A. S. SANFORD,

2nd Lieut. D. RUSSELL,

3rd Lieut. J. GILLET.

Sergeants,

1st E. SANFORD,

2nd B. WHITE,

3rd W. B. DOCKSTADER,

4th D. W. CROSS,

Corporals,

1st B. B. HASTINGS,

2nd THO'S. UMBSTAETTER,

3rd J. A. CRAW,

4th G. H. RUSSELL,

On the 29th of November, 1838, the company paraded for the first time and created a very favourable effect among the citizens: on this occasion they turned out twenty eight rank and file.

On the 23rd of January 1839, the Greys gave a Military Ball, said to be one of the most splendid ever given in the Western Country. On the 22nd of May 1839, the Company were called out for the purpose of receiving a splendid Standard, the gift of Charles M. Giddings Esq., one of the most enterprising and public spirited men on the Western Reserve. The Standard was painted by Jarvis F. Hanks, Esq., an artist of much celebrity, and one who bids fair in a short time to take his stand among the first painters of the day; he was a soldier in the last war, and participated in several engagements, and among the rest, the battle of Lundy's Lane, under Gen. Scott. The Standard is a rich silk, nearly the colour of the uniform, and surrounded by gold fringe, the staff surmounted by an Eagle, on one side is painted the Coat of Arms of the State of Ohio, and on the other an encampment of the Greys, with their motto, "*Semper Paratus*," in a scroll above, and the name of the donor beneath:—The tassels are heavy bullion and gold cord, making altogether the most costly and rich article of the kind in the State.

On the 3rd of July, the Greys went into an encampment in the suburbs of the city, and remained on the ground four days. On the 4th, they gave a dinner in their Camp, which was attended by a large number of citizens and distinguished strangers, and in the evening they had a display of fire works. On the morning of the 6th, the Greys received a detachment of the Buffalo City Guards, under the command of Col. M'Kay, on their return from a visit to the Brady Guards of Detroit. They remained a short time and breakfasted with the Greys in their camp. During the short time the Guards remained in Cleveland, they won golden opinions of all, by their soldier-like appearance and gentlemanly conduct—and in parting with them, it was with the sincere wish on the part of the Greys, that they might, at an early day, again give them the right hand of fellowship.

The number of the Greys is fast increasing, being at the present time about fifty. By another spring they will probably number Sixty-Four rank and file. They design soon, to make an excursion from home on a visit to some of the principal towns in the State.

The present officers of the Company are,

T. INGRAHAM, CAPTAIN.

A. S. SANFORD, 1st Lieut.

WM. SMYTH, 3rd "

W. B. DOCKSTADER, Ensign.

S. INGLEHEART, Surgeon.

Sergeants.

1st E. SANFORD,

2nd J. THOMAS,

3rd S. RICHARDSON,

4th THO'S. UMBSTAETTER,

G. B. MERWIN, 2nd Lieut.

N. HAYWARD, 4th "

AUGUSTIN MERWIN, Commissary.

S. J. ANDREWS, Judge Advocate.

Corporals.

1st B. STANARD,

2nd E. SCOVILL,

3rd M. CARSON,

4th G. H. RUSSELL,

S. RICHARDSON, Secretary.

The constitution of the Company, provides that the Captain shall hold his office one year, and be eligible for re-election—the commissioned officers are promoted in regular order, without an election—The orderly Sergeant is then of course, and without ballot made Ensign—the vacancy thus created is filled from the ranks, the non-commissioned officers having no preference over the privates. Should this vacancy not occur, the 1st Sergeant holds his office during good behaviour.—The 2nd and 3rd Sergeants, having served three months, return to the ranks. The other non-commissioned officers are then promoted in order, and without election—the vacancies thus made in the 3d and 4th Corporalship are filled from the ranks—This plan prevents the promotion of inferior, over their superior officers, which is often the destruction of independent Companies.

The Greys are entirely independent—not being attached to any regiment. It is their intention so to remain, until the laws of the State are so altered, as to create a proper Military spirit among its citizens.

The uniform for the privates, is a coat of Cadet-mixture, cut double breasted, with nine buttons on each breast; the officers have twelve on each breast in pares; collar two and half inches high, of black cloth, two lace holes on each end of the collar, with one button in each hole; skirt cut the length of the arm; back and skirt turned up with black cloth; black fly on each skirt, with four lace holes and a button in each hole; cuff and welt of black cloth; four lace holes on each welt, two being above, and two on the cuff, with a button in each hole. Backs tacked together; two buttons at the hips, and one at the bottom of each skirt. Pantaloon of Cadet-mixed, cut to fit the leg, with a fly in front, and a stripe of black cloth one and half inches wide, on each out-side seam. Cap made of patent leather; eight and half inches deep; one quarter inch taper, one half inch curve with brass front, yellow cord and tassels, Eagle trimmings, and horse hair plumes, patent leather strap under the chin.

AN ENIGMA.

From the War of 1812.

While Britain's Lion proudly treads,
And o'er the seas his terror spreads;
While myriads tremble at his roar,
And Gallia's frigates run to shore;
Thy *stripes*, Columbia are too bright,
Thy *stars*, too radiant for his sight.
He shuns thy Eagle's piercing eye,
He trembles when it mounts the sky;
For thou hast humbled his vain pride,
And with thy talons pierced his side.*
Think not proud Britons to invite,
Or challenge freemen to the fight,
You do not meet the sons of France,
'Tis not the Spaniards who advance;
But 'tis Columbia's heroes bold,
Who fight for freedom, not for gold
'Tis they who deal the deadly blow,
And hurl their thunders on the foe.
Thus none they fear by land or sea:
Nations! why then are ye not free?

* Alluding to the signal victory of the brave Captain Hull, over Dacres.

Should foes within our ports appear,
We need not dread, for I am here.
I, who from yonder mountains came,
And from the Ocean drew my name.
I'm made to live beneath the wave;
I'm free, though an eternal slave.
I'm feared by all where'er I come,
And speak aloud, though deaf and dumb.
But when I speak all round me shakes,
And all, too near, in atoms breaks.
A flame I spread, so great its force,
That all must fall within its course;
As when the thunder rends the skies,
And all around the lightning flies;
Then mortals tremble at the roar,
For should it strike they are no more.
Stand distant, and avoid me then,
Fly your destruction, sons of men.
Who then am I? my name disclose,
So great a terror to my foes.

LEINAD.

Answer in our next.